

REMARKS

Claims 3-8, 13, and 14, amended claims 1, 2, 9-12, and 15, and new claim 16 are in this application.

Claims 11 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claims 11 and 15 have been respectively rewritten herein in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 11 and 15 are allowable.

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kikuchi et al (US 6,553,180).

Amended independent claim 1 recites in part the following:

"a semiconductor storage medium configured to be mounted detachably to a main body so that said storage medium can be mounted to said main body when desired and removed from said main body when desired, said storage medium containing predetermined file data that have been electrically stored;" (Emphasis added.)

It is respectfully submitted that Kikuchi as applied by the Examiner does not disclose the above feature of claim 1. That is, in explaining the above 102 rejection with regard to claim 1, the Examiner appears to assert that the optical disc 10 of Fig. 1 and lines 19-45 of column 7 of Kikuchi are the same as or disclose the storage medium of claim 1. In response to such assertion, it is respectfully submitted that although such portions of Kikuchi appear to disclose an optical disc 10, such optical disc is not the same as a semiconductor storage medium.

As is to be appreciated, and as indicated in the present application (see, for example, lines 1-6 of page 24 thereof), using a semiconductor storage medium may eliminate moving parts in the information regenerating unit. As also is to be appreciated, the system of Kikuchi would need moving parts to record or reproduce data to or from the optical disc 10.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 is distinguishable from Kikuchi as applied by the Examiner.

Claims 2-10, 12-14, and new claim 16 are dependent from claim 1. As such, claims 2-10, 12-14, and 16 are believed to be distinguishable from Kikuchi as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Dennis M. Smid

Registration No.: 34,930

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,

KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West

Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorney for Applicant